

THE VOICE OF IMMANUEL

March 2022



There are some words and phrases which we do not mention in polite company! We restrain ourselves for the sake of social harmony, decorum, or simple kindness. But what about the words we would rather not hear in church? Words like "obedience," "sacrifice," "sin," "repentance," "death," "forgiveness" – even "faith"? These words have tremendous depth of meaning, but they also have resonance in our own lives and experience – and our history with these concepts is not always positive. Join the pastors of the Great Rivers Mission District as we delve into "Preaching's Forbidden Words" during the 2022 Lenten season.

The seven pastors who will be involved in this year's round robin are: Pastor Matt Bahnfleth - John 5:16b-27; Pastor Deb Domeier - John 15:9-17; Pastor Jay Johnson - John 14:20-24; Pastor Andy Jones - Luke 5:17-25; Pastor Dennis Meyer - Mark 1:14-15 and Luke 24:47; Pastor Donna Smith - John 11:17-37, and your pastor - 1 John 1:5-10. With only five Wednesdays in Lent after Ash Wednesday, no congregation will have all of the area pastors visiting.

How can you prepare for the season? First, read all of the scripture passages and meditate on each one. How is God speaking to you through these divinely inspired words? Second, try to figure out which passage corresponds to the word "we don't want to hear"? Then, come every week and see if you have paired them correctly.

As an extra bonus, these psalms will also be used during Lent: 6, 32, 38, 130, 143. They are referred to as the "Penitential Psalms." Read these in advance as well as part of your season of repentance.

Pastor Jim Schuman



COUNCIL MINUTES

February 8, 2022

Pastor's Report - Pastor announced he will be retiring effective June 15, 2022. Council retreat is scheduled for February 20th following the 10:15 service. Pastor assisted in the installation of a new pastor in Kirkland, IL. Shelly Schultz, NALC Leadership, will be assisting Immanuel to call a new pastor.

Worship - The congregation is still searching for another organist/pianist to assist with services.

Unfinished Business - Work has begun on updating the internet and wifi network.

New Business - Pastor provided a step-by-step summary for the transition of a new pastor. Freese Scholarship: 15% Farm Bureau (6 scholarships @\$1,500 each); 60% Higher Education evenly divided among all applicants; 25% Seminary.

Next Meeting: March 8th at 6:00 p.m.

ANNUAL CONFIRMATION CLASS REUNION

Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022

We will honor the confirmation classes of:

1947 (75th anniversary)

1972 (50th anniversary)

1997 (25th anniversary)

On Sunday, April 10th, during the Sunday School hour, we will meet in Diers Hall for a time of fellowship and food. All are welcome to join us! We will recognize these confirmands at the Palm Sunday 10:15 a.m. worship service.

Additional information will be posted in the April newsletter.

HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

3/2	Lorraine Burkhardt
3/3	Sylvia Flessner
3/7	Ellen Blue
3/8	Alice Sieberns
3/10	Eunice Frerichs
3/10	Collin Kopmann
3/13	Shirley Rademacher
3/15	Beverly Wolken
3/22	Darrell Suits
3/23	Steve Buhr
3/23	Janice Siuts
3/24	Marla Osterbur
3/24	Elizabeth Suits
3/25	Karon Currie
3/28	Lloyd Duitsman
3/29	Elaine Uken
3/30	Marlene Franzen
3/30	Lester Wolken

SHUT-INS

Keep our homebound and shut-ins in your thoughts and prayers. They would all enjoy calls or visits:

Brookstone Estates

Lela Huls
Emilie Steffey

Country Health Nursing Home

Gesina Erdman
Dorothy Fruhling

Evergreen Place

Del Dahl

Villas of Holly Brook - Rantoul

Dora Ehmen

Supportive Living of Washington

Donna Flessner

Home Bound

Anne Duitsman - Florida

**LENTEN OFFERINGS**

The Lenten offerings will be divided equally among the following four recipients:

Malawi Orphan Care Project - The project exists to improve the lives of orphaned and at-risk children and their caregivers in Malawi, Africa. Their vision is to have healthy, self-sustaining communities throughout Malawi. The project works with community leaders to address the physical, spiritual, economic, and relational needs of the orphans and their care givers.

Rantoul Food Bank - They are a non-profit organization that provides food to families at or below poverty level. They average serving approximately 500 families per month.

NALC - Theological Education Fund - This fund supports the NALC's efforts to provide for faithful Lutheran theological education for its pastors, prospective pastors and lay people. It also provides support for operational funding and scholarship support for seminarians.

Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center - The center offers free testing to all types of women. Most come to us in a crisis. Other services include parenting classes and providing maternity and baby clothing.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Soup and sandwich suppers are at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays beginning March 9th. A sign-up sheet will be posted across from the office for ways you can help in providing soup and/or dessert, or help with set-up/clean-up.

FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE

	<u>Sat.</u>	<u>Sun.</u>	<u>Sun.</u>	<u>Totals</u>
		8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	
1/30	11	81	56	148
2/6	7	75	53	135
2/13	19	59	43	121
2/20	11	63	49	123

WOMEN OF IMMANUEL**Women of Faith**

Lamentations 3:22-23 tells us the Lord's Love never ends, His mercies never stop. They are new every morning.

Join us on March 22nd at 2:00 p.m. as we listen to "A Grand New Day" DVD. Sheila Walsh tells us how God delivered her! You don't want to miss it.

**CHOIR**

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 9th. We will meet right after the Wednesday night Lenten service to begin preparing for Easter!

RADIO BROADCAST AND ALTAR FLOWERS

The new 2022 sign-up charts for Altar Flowers and Radio Broadcasts are on the bulletin board next to the church office for you to make your reservations. Altar Flowers are \$35.00 and Radio Broadcast is \$70.00. You may call the church office to reserve a date or sign up on the charts. Please pay for your flowers or radio broadcast when you make your reservations.

HOLY COMMUNION

will be held (if restrictions allow) at:

Brookstone

on Thursday, March 10th at 10:00 a.m. and at

Country Health

on Thursday, March 10th, at 1:30 p.m.

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No Hymn Sings until further notice.

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SEVEN MARKS SOCIETY

The Seven Marks Society will have activities for children beginning on Ash Wednesday through Lent with the stations of the cross. The link for this website is: <https://smsimmanuel.com/> which can be found on our homepage under the Resources tab.

MARCH STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

The stewardship project for the month of March will be collecting canned goods for our local food bank. Let's see if we can fill the grocery cart in the church breezeway. When grocery shopping for your own family, why not purchase a few extra cans for the needy.

**HOLY MATRIMONY**

Gary Sage and Susan Swain were united in Holy Matrimony, on Saturday, January 29, 2022 at Immanuel, officiated by Pastor James T. Lehmann, STS

Devin Flessner and Lindsay Keltz were united in Holy Matrimony, on Saturday, February 12, 2022 at Immanuel, officiated by Pastor James T. Lehmann, STS

EUCHRE

The Euchre Tournament will be held Sunday, March 20th, at 3:00 p.m. All are invited. Please join us!

**OSTFRIESIAN SOCIETY**

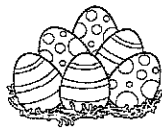
The society plans to meet on Sunday, March 20th, at 1:00 p.m. All are welcome! Please watch bulletins for changes.

SPECIAL DATES

Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022
 World Day of Prayer, March 4, 2022
 First Sunday in Lent, March 6, 2022
 Second Sunday in Lent, March 13, 2022
 Daylight Saving Time Begins, March 13, 2022
 Third Sunday in Lent, March 20, 2022
 First Day of Spring, March 20, 2022
 Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 27, 2022

EASTER EGG HUNT

Save the date and mark your calendars! The Easter Egg Hunt will be on Palm Sunday, April 10th during the Sunday School hour.

**LYO**

Easter Breakfast is back! LYO will be leading this year's Sunrise Service and will be hosting Easter Breakfast immediately following the service. Please join us! If you would like to help LYO by donating a breakfast item please contact Alyson Suits at 217-202-4888.

We will be offering Mother's Day Corsages for sale again this year. Look for the sign-up board in the breezeway on Easter Sunday and leading up to the week before Mother's Day.

We have started researching a Mission Trip for LYO this summer. If you are interested, please contact Alyson Suits at 217-202-4888.

**VBS**

It's almost that time of year for VBS! Come join us for our *Food Truck Party* from Monday June 13th through Friday June 17th (VBS program on Sunday June 19th). Bring your children to "take out" each day's "Daily Special" of how God gives us everything we have when we pray to Him.

We encourage you to register your children or sign up to volunteer by April 17th. Please register your Sunday School children by age at: <https://www.myvbs.org/ImmanuelLutheranChurch> Sixth Grade through High School students and adults are welcome to register to volunteer at the same link.

Further details and info can be found at the church website (under the Youth Education tab). Please contact Kalista Lutes, Darcy Silver, or Tina Buhr with any additional questions.

WEATHER CONCERNS

In case of inclement weather, the decision regarding cancellation of worship services will be made between 6:00-7:00 a.m. The decision will be announced on our website and Facebook page, as well as on WCIA-TV, WIXY, and WHMS. You may also look on wcia.com.

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**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

*The newsletter deadline is April 15<sup>th</sup>.*  
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MARCH 2022 CALENDAR-IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:30 a- Pastors' Study & Worship	2 6:00 a- Men's Bible Study 7:00 p- Ash Wednesday w/Holy Communion	3 8:30 a- LWR Sewing	4	5 5:00 p- Worship & Holy Communion
6 8:00 & 10:15 a- Worship & Holy Communion 9:15 a- SS/Adults SS	7 8:30 a- LWR Sewing	8 9:30 a- Pastors' Study & Worship 6:00 p- Council	9 6:00 a- Men's Bible Study 6:00 p- Lenten supper 7:00 p- Lent - Choir Practice after Worship Service	10 10:00 a- Holy Communion at Brookstone 1:30 p- Holy Communion at Country Health	11	12 5:00 p- Worship
13 8:00 & 10:15 a- Worship 9:15 a- SS/Adults SS 2-4:30 p- Diers Hall reserved	14	15 9:30 a- Pastors' Study & Worship Newsletter deadline	16 6:00 a- Men's Bible Study 6:00 p- Lenten supper 7:00 p- Lent	17 8:30 a- LWR Sewing	18	19 5:00 p- Worship & Holy Communion
20 8:00 & 10:15 a- Worship & Holy Communion 9:15 a- SS/Adults 1:00 p- Ostfriesian 3:00 p- Euchre	21 8:30 a- LWR Sewing	22 9:30 a- Pastors' Study & Worship 2:00 p- Women of Immanuel 7:00 p- Parish Ed	23 6:00 a- Men's Bible Study 6:00 p- Lenten supper 7:00 p- Lent	24	25	26 5:00 p- Worship
27 8:00 & 10:15 a- Worship & Holy Communion 9:15 a- SS/Adults 11:00 - 1:00 - Diers Hall reserved for KFC	28	29 9:30 a- Pastors' Study & Worship	30 6:00 a- Men's Bible Study 6:00 p- Lenten supper 7:00 p- Lent	31		

MARCH 2022 VOLUNTEERS

Date	Acolyte	Lay Readers	Communion Assistants	No Greeters	Ushers
Wednesday, Mar 2, 2022 7:00 pm COMMUNION ASH WEDNESDAY	Caleb Cotter Korinne Travis	Bev Lehmann	Joyce Romine Mike Stark		
Sunday, Mar 6, 2022 5:00 pm 8:00 am 10:15 am COMMUNION	Carmen Sage Haley Sage Davyn Franzen Ian Wolken	Lloyd Duitsman Sue Calhoun	5:00 Sharon Emkes 8:00 Amy Jones Shannon Childress 10:15 Toni Brown Denise Wolken		March: 8:00am Norman Uken (Capt) Rick Wolken Rodney Bergman Kyle Meccoli
Wednesday, Mar 9, 2022 7:00 pm	Abbie Blue	Robyn Camp			
Sunday, Mar 13, 2022 5:00 pm 8:00 am 10:15 am	Aubree Rosenstiel Bryce Brown	Leon Schmidt Karon Currie			March: 10:15am Ellen Blue (Capt) Gary Busboom Bob Clem Ryan Rademaker
Wednesday, Mar 16, 2022 7:00 pm	Makenna Ackerman	Denise Wolken			
Sunday, Mar 20, 2022 5:00 pm 8:00 am 10:15 am COMMUNION	Kodey McKinney Lane McKinney Spencer Stockwill Casen Goff	Darcy McMahon Callie Heidbreder	5:00 Lois Harms 8:00 Judy Rademaker Bev Lehmann 10:15 Sue Calhoun Callie Heidbreder		Altar Guild Donna Wiltshire (Chair) Brenda Barr Teri Travis Denise Wolken Bev Heiden Casey Roelfs
Wednesday, Mar 23, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Nolan Franzen	Emily Dunlap			
Sunday, Mar 27, 2022 5:00 pm 8:00 am 10:15 am	Cameron McElroy Alex Blue	Dr. David Bruns Toni Brown			
Wednesday, Mar 30, 2022 7:00 pm	Anna Hammond	Sharon Emkes			

APRIL 2022 VOLUNTEERS

Date	Acolytes	Lay Readers	Communion Assistants	No Greeters	Ushers
Sunday, April 3, 2022 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. COMMUNION	Caleb Cotter Connor McMahon Aubree Rosenstiel Ashlynn Ackerman	Elaine Wilson Joyce Romine	5:00 Sue Calhoun 8:00 Judy Rademaker Shannon Childress 10:15 Mike Stark Joyce Romine		April: 8:00 a.m. Gene Schmidt (Captain) Jeff Hoveln Brant Hoveln Dave Wolken
Wednesday, April 6, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Nolan Franzen	Kim Wood			April: 10:15 a.m. Brett Brown (Captain) Marvin Rademacher Eric Suits Blake Hedrick
Sunday, April 10, 2022 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. PALM SUNDAY COMMUNION	Carmen Sage Chesney Franzen Bryce Brown Korinne Travis	Nicole Crites Teri Travis	5:00 Sharon Emkes 8:00 Bev Lehmann Nicole Crites 10:15 Toni Brown Callie Heidbreder		April: 10:15 a.m. Brett Brown (Captain) Marvin Rademacher Eric Suits Blake Hedrick
Thursday, April 14, 2022 7:00 p.m. MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION	Makenna Ackerman Abbie Blue	Ellen Blue	7:00 Denise Wolken Carmen Sage		
Friday, April 15, 2022 7:00 p.m. GOOD FRIDAY	Spencer Stockwill	Shari Hoveln			

Sunday, April 17, 2022 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m.	Kodey McKinney Lane McKinney Ian Wolken Haley Sage	Amy Jones	5:00 Joyce Romine 8:00 Elaine Wilson Amy Jones		
10:15 a.m. EASTER COMMUNION	Bryce Brown Anna Hammond Casen Goff Davyn Franzen	Sue Calhoun	10:15 Karon Currie Sue Calhoun		
Sunday, April 24, 2022 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. CONFIRMATION COMMUNION	Cameron McElroy Nolan Franzen Alex Blue	Kyle Meccoli Callie Heidbreder	10:15 Callie Heidbreder Lois Harms		

JANUARY 2022 TREASURER'S REPORT

Fund Balance Information

GENERAL FUND				BUILDING FUND			
Fund Balance	12/31/2021	\$	351,976.69	Fund Balance	12/31/2021	\$	157,261.28
Offerings		\$	28,298.35	Offerings		\$	9,207.25
Dedicated & Other Fund Receipts			7,245.92	Total Income			\$ 9,207.25
Total Income		\$	35,544.27				
Pastoral Ministry		\$	14,709.80	Utilities		\$	6,571.30
Worship & Service			9,260.86	Building & Repair			424.00
Our Church Home			3,367.54	Insurance			6,596.76
Dedicated Fund Expenses			1,103.89	Total Expenses		\$	13,592.06
Total Expenses		\$	28,442.09				
Total Fund Balance	1/31/2022	\$	359,078.87	Total Fund Balance	1/31/2022	\$	152,876.47
Less Dedicated Fund Total			108,980.63				
Total Unobligated Balance		\$	250,098.24				
<i>General Fund Invested as:</i>				<i>Building Fund Invested as:</i>			
Money Market	\$227,603.59	CD	\$45,335.79	Checking		\$	152,876.47
		Checking	\$ 15,492.96				
				Other Fund Balances			
				Endowment Capital	\$ 52,336.07	Memorial	\$ 41,442.39
				Endowment Common	\$ 38,426.14	Endowment Interest	\$ 1.79

Offering & Attendance January 2022

By Category

General	\$ 28,298.35
Benevolence	10,092.00
Building	9,207.25
Total	\$ 47,597.60

January Attendance

574
Average Weekly Attendance
115

Benevolence Offering Includes

General Benevolence	6,349.75	NALC Seminary	1,276.00
Rantoul Food Bank	51.25	Thanksgiving	700.00
Disaster Relief	250.00	Men's Shelter	25.00
Lent	200.00	Christmas Day	275.00
Mission Festival	500.00	Christmas Eve	425.00
Lutheran CORE	40.00		

Additional Offerings Received

Radio Broadcast	910.00	LYO	70.00
Altar Flowers	420.00	JOY	10.00
Parking Lot	600.00	VBS	20.00
Special Flowers	27.00	Sunday School	290.90
Historical Committee	500.00	Initial Offering	534.00
Quilting Group	505.00	CD's	11.00
		Donut \$'s	149.43

Stewardship Progress Year to Date

	Budgeted	Received	Ahead/(Behind)
General	\$ 25,091.00	\$ 28,298.35	\$ 3,207.35
Benevolence	10,000.00	10,092.00	92.00
Building	8,875.00	9,207.25	332.25
TOTAL	\$ 43,966.00	\$ 47,597.60	\$ 3,631.60

	Expenses	Ahead/(Behind)
General	\$ 27,338.20	\$ 960.15
Benevolence	7,992.00	2,100.00
Building	13,592.06	(4,384.81)
	\$ 48,922.26	\$ (1,324.66)

